set up on 25th August, 2005 under the Chairmanship of the Minister of Agriculture Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.

(c) and (d) On the Employment Guarantee Act, the suggestions that payment of wages should be mostly in cash since there were problems in movement of foodgrains to backward areas and that being a self-targeting programme, the Employment Guarantee should cover non-BPL families were noted by the NDC, and it was directed to consider them for inclusion in the final draft of the National Employment Guarantee Bill which has since already been passed by the Parliament.

Amendment in proportion of assistance to States

†3312. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the basis of granting 70 per cent loan and 30 per cent grants to States;

(b) whether the State Governments have sought an amendment in this proportion; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and by when a decision is likely to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) Central Assistance for Annual Plans of States released as loans and grants for various projects/schemes comprises of Normal Central Assistance (NCA), Additional Central Assistance (ACA) for Externally Aided Projects (EAPs) and ACA for Special and Other Programmes. Allocation of NCA is based on the Gadgil Formula as approved by the National Development Council (NDC) in December, 1991 in the Loan: Grant ratio of 10:90 for Special Category States and 70:30 for Non Special Category States. The allocation of ACA for Eaps and ACA for Special and Other Programmes are based on the specific guidelines. The release of NCA in the form of loans and grants in the ratio of 70:30 to Non Special Category States is based on the relative composition of Plan expenditure in terms of Capital and Revenue components and the resource position of the States as well as that of the Centre.

(b) and (c) Consequent upon the formation of the new UPA Government, the Planning Commission initiated Regional Meetings with Chief Ministers of States under the Chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Commission covering the entire 6 (six) regions of the country *i.e.* North, South, East, West, Central and North East. None of the States raised the issue of amendment in proportion of assistance to States.

Earthquake prone building in Delhi

†3313. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted survey regarding earthquake prone buildings located in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of most vulnerable buildings in Delhi which might collapse at the time of earthquake; and

(d) the steps taken by Government keeping security of the said buildings in view?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, efforts have been initiated to estimate the seismic vulnerability of buildings in Delhi region. As a part of this effort, five buildings, namely, the Delhi Secretariat, Police Headquarter Building at ITO, the Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital, the Ludlow Castle School and the Office Complex of Divisional Commissioner of the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have been selected for assessing their seismic safety status as well as to retrofit them, if required. The pilot project is expected to provide a model for seismic safety evaluation and retrofitting of existing seismically deficient buildings, which can be replicated in Delhi as well as in other States/ Union Territories. The knowledge gained through this pilot study may be disseminated through training programmes for engineers of the Central and State Governments. Also, the first level microzonation map of National Capital Territory of Delhi at 1:50,000 scale has just been completed, which would help in assessing the strength of buildings/structures.

(d) A committee of Experts was constituted by the Ministry of Home Affairs to develop model building byelaws, town and country planning legislations, zoning regulations and development control regulations for earthquake risk mitigation and management. The report submitted by the said Committee has been circulated to the State Government/Union Territories Administrations with the advice to adapt them to meet the requirements of the State/Union Territories.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.